(c) if so. the amounts so reimbursed, operation-wise and year-wise;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) if not, the action taken by Government to recover/reimburse these amounts to the Defence exchequer ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) An expenditure of about Rs. 448.66 lakhs has been incurred by the Army Headquarters since 1998 towards the employment of Army for maintenance of Law and Order, when so requisitioned by various State Governments.

(b) to (e) According to the Government guidelines, all expenditure on the employment of Armed Forces for the maintenance of Law and Order will be borne by the Central Government, but the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations may contribute towards the cost, if they wish to do so.

Prevention of civilian sportsmen from practising on play grounds of defence cantonment areas

4811. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the defence authorities are preventing civilian sportsmen from practising on the play grounds of defence cantonment areas in several parts of India and specially in Andhra Pradesh at Lal Bazaar (Trimulgherry) of Secunderabad cantonment and other places of Secunderabad cantonment; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) Play grounds of civil areas maintained by Cantonment Boards, including Secunderabad, are meant for the public use and there is no question of preventing sportsmen practising in these play grounds. Play grounds, including those in Secunderabad Cantonment, located on A-1 Defence Land, are meant for exclusive use by the Army and its use for non-military purposes is not permitted as per prevailing Defence Land Policy. However, permission to use play grounds of Secunderabad Cantonment by civilians is accorded on specific requests when the ground is not in use by the army.